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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/790,191	03/02/2004	Sang-Won Ha	053933-5063	2955
9629	7590	07/21/2006	EXAMINER	
MORGAN LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP 1111 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004			TALBOT, BRIAN K	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			1762	

DATE MAILED: 07/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/790,191	HA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Brian K. Talbot	1762

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 May 2006.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 5-9 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 5-9 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

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1. The amendment filed 5/10/06 has been considered and entered. Claims 1-4 have been canceled. Claims 5-9 remain in the application.
2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
3. In light of the response filed 5/10/06, the 35 USC 112 first paragraph rejection over claims 8 and 9 has been withdrawn.

New Matter

4. The amendment filed 5/10/06 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132(a) states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows:

The limitation of separating the fixing jigs from the optical fibers wherein the fixing jigs inside the epoxy are removed is not supported by the specification. On pg. 11, lines 21-22, Fig. 3D, the fixing jigs (50) are removed from the embedded optical fibers and are NOT “inside the epoxy resin” at this time.

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. Claims 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The limitation of separating the fixing jigs from the optical fibers wherein the fixing jigs inside the epoxy are removed is not supported by the specification. On pg. 11, lines 21-22, Fig. 3D, the fixing jigs (50) are removed from the embedded optical fibers and are NOT “inside the epoxy resin” at this time.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. Claims 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okayasu (6,257,771) in combination with Delbare et al. (5,253,310) or Noddings et al. (2003-0053770) further in combination with Ma et al. (6,865,307).

Okayasu (6,257,771) teaches an optical/electrical hybrid wiring board and its manufacture. An optical fiber-embedded layer is provided as one layer of a multiple-layered electrical wiring board. The optical fiber embedded layer (25) is shown in Fig. 5. An adhesive material is applied to one side of the insulating sheet (22) to form an adhesive layer (23). Optical

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fibers are laid in a pattern on the adhesive (23). Upon completion of the fiber laying, a filler material (25A) is applied to form an embedded filler material with fibers.

Okayasu (6,257,771) fails to teach forming the fiber embedded structure by laying the fibers in a jig and dipping in epoxy to form the structure along with pressure and temperature.

Delbare et al. (5,253,310) teaches an optical coupling structure whereby a structure (8) with grooves (10) is utilized to hold optical fibers in a predetermined array prior to embedding the fibers with a liquid epoxy and curing (col. 4, line 50 – col. 5, line 30).

Noddings et al. (2003-0053770) teaches fabrication of optical devices and assemblies whereby optical fibers or waveguides are formed, cladding layer is applied, and the structure is encapsulated with an epoxy material. Pressure and temperature is used to for the structure. In Fig. 9, grooves (906) are formed in a substrate to hold the optical fibers (204) in place prior to the encapsulation material.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Okayasu (6,257,771) process by incorporating a optical fiber holder as evidenced by Delbare et al. (5,253,310) or Noddings et al. (2003-0053770) with the expectation of controlling the arrangement of the embedded fibers during the embedding process.

Okayasu (6,257,771) in combination with Delbare et al. (5,253,310) or Noddings et al. (2003-0053770) fails to teach removing the fixing jig after embedding.

Ma et al. (6,865,307) teaches a similar process whereby optical fibers are embedded in epoxy by a molding mold and after embedding the molding mold is removed (abstract).

While the Examiner acknowledges the fact that Ma et al. (6,865,307) teaches injection molding whereas the instant claims are directed toward encapsulating by dipping/immersion, it is the Examiner's position that one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made would have had a reasonable expectation of achieving similar success regardless of the "molding process" utilized, i.e. injection molding vs. immersion as both processes are commonplace in the art and would be expected to produce a similar "encapsulated" product.

Therefore it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Okayasu (6,257,771) in combination with Delbare et al. (5,253,310) or Noddings et al. (2003-0053770) process by incorporating a removing step of removing the jigs after embedding as evidenced by Ma et al. (6,865,307) with the expectation of achieving similar success.

While the Examiner acknowledges the fact that the prior art is silent with respect to the embedding process by dipping or rolling, it is the Examiner position that this process is a well known effective way to produce composite structures as is disclosed. The prior art teaches injecting the encapsulating material in a mold that would also produce the desired product. It is the Examiner's position that one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made would have had a reasonable expectation of achieving a similar product regardless of which conventional embedding means is utilized absent a showing of unexpected results. If Applicant disagrees, Applicant is invited to supply a showing of unexpected results and upon such a showing, the Examiner will reconsider his position regarding the obviousness of the coating technique utilized.

Claims 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okayasu (6,257,771) in combination with Delbare et al. (5,253,310) or Noddings et al. (2003-0053770) further in combination with Yang et al. (6,489,012).

Features described above are incorporated here.

Okayasu (6,257,771) in combination with Delbare et al. (5,253,310) or Noddings et al. (2003-0053770) fail to teach the use of attaching members on the prepreg prior to cladding.

Yang et al. (6,489,012) teaches adhesive means are interposed between a plurality of copper clad laminates and each of the adhesive means comprises a clad laminate and prepreg layer formed on both surfaces of the clad laminate. The use of the adhesive layer prior to the cladding layer reduces thickness variation and defects (abstract).

Therefore it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Okayasu (6,257,771) in combination with Delbare et al. (5,253,310) or Noddings et al. (2003-0053770) process by incorporating adhesive/cladding layers and pressing to form the circuit board with the expectation of achieving the advantages associated therewith as evidenced by Yang et al. (6,489,012).

Response to Amendment

7. Applicant's arguments filed 5/10/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

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Applicant argued that the prior art fails to teach the removal of the jigs inside the epoxy resin after the embedding process.

This has been addressed above. In addition, Ma et al. (6,865,307) is relied upon for teaching using a jig/holder which can be removed after molding/encapsulation while the primary references are relied upon for teaching using a jig/holder which is incorporated in the final product. The combination rejection suggests that either method would, i.e. injection molding or dipping, would produce the desired product with similar success.

Applicant argued that the prior art failed to teach using the adhesive to align the copper clad laminate with the prepreg layer.

The Examiner disagrees. As noted above, Yang et al. (6,489,012) teaches applying adhesive layers to the prepreg to align the cladding layers. Hence, it is the Examiner's position that this meets the claimed limitations as argued.

8. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian K. Talbot whose telephone number is (571) 272-1428. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 6AM-3PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy H. Meeks can be reached on (571) 272-1423. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


7/15/06
Brian K. Talbot
Primary Examiner
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BKT